

As mayor, Koch often deviated from the conventional liberal line, strongly supporting the death penalty and taking a hard line on "quality of life" issues, such as giving police broader powers in dealing with the homeless and favoring (and signing) legislation banning the playing of radios on subways and buses. These positions prompted harsh criticism from many proponents of civil rights.

In 1984 Koch published his first memoir, *Mayor*, a best-seller that was turned into an Off-Broadway musical. In 1985, he won reelection on the Democratic and Independent tickets with 78% of the vote. In 1986, Mayor Koch surprised many by signing a lesbian and gay rights ordinance after backing his Health Department's decision to shut down the city's gay bathhouses in 1985 in response to the spread of AIDS.

In 1987, when the New York Giants won Super Bowl XXI, he refused to grant a permit for the team to hold their victory parade in the "Canyon of Heroes," quipping, "If they want a parade, let them parade in front of the oil drums in Moonachie," a town near the Meadowlands Sports Complex in New Jersey, where the Giants play.

In his third term, Koch suffered a stroke while in office, but continued with his duties. Koch became a controversial figure in the 1988 presidential campaign for criticizing Jesse Jackson for alleged anti-Semitism and stating that Jews would be "crazy" to vote for Jackson. In 1989, he ran for a fourth term as Mayor, but lost the Democratic primary to David Dinkins, who went on to defeat Rudy Giuliani in the general election.

In the years following his mayoralty, Koch became a partner in the law firm of Bryan Cave LLP and became a commentator on politics, movies and restaurants for newspapers, radio and television. He also became an adjunct professor at New York University (NYU) and a visiting professor at Brandeis University.

In 2008, Koch announced that he had secured a burial plot in the only graveyard in Manhattan accepting new burials, stating, "I don't want to leave Manhattan, even when I'm gone. This is my home. The thought of having to go to New Jersey was so distressing to me." On March 23, 2011, the New York City Council voted to rename the Queensboro Bridge as the "Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 88th birthday of Ed Koch, an independent thinker, an outstanding leader and the quintessential New Yorker.

**COMMENDING DOUG CHRISTOPHER
UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM
DISTRICT COUNCIL 16 OF THE
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF
PAINTERS AND ALLIED TRADES**

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the career of Doug Christopher who is retiring this month as Business Manager and Secretary-Treasurer of District Council 16 of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) after 28 years of dedicated service to its members.

Doug has lived and worked in the San Francisco Bay Area and has made great contributions to the strength of our middle class and the Bay Area economy. He has many achievements to be proud of and deserves our commendation and public recognition for his service and his leadership in his union and in his community.

Doug was elected as an Executive Board Member At-Large to the Glaziers Local 1621 in 1984. With his election to President in 1985, he established the union's Defense Fund. Doug Christopher served the members of Local 1621 from 1997 to 1999 in various capacities and provided expert advice and leadership in advancing and defending the rights of working men and women.

Highly regarded in the labor community for his expertise and longstanding record of accomplishments, Doug was elected as Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer for District Council 16 in 2007.

It is appropriate at this time to commend Doug Christopher on his outstanding record of union and civic leadership and extend our sincere best wishes for a rewarding and gratifying retirement.

America is strongest when its middle class and working men and women are strong, and Doug has every right to be proud of the work he has done to make our country strong.

**HONORING JACQUES ALEXANDER
MARQUIS MATTHEWS**

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable 22-year-old young man from Shaw, Mississippi. Jacques Alexander Marquis Matthews has answered the call of duty to his country and is currently serving as an active soldier in the Mississippi National Guard stationed in Afghanistan.

Specialist Matthews comes from a lineage filled with military servicemen and women. His paternal grandfather, Mr. William Carter, is a Vietnam Veteran who served in the United States Air Force; his maternal uncle, Mr. James Attaway, served in the United States Marines; and his mother, Ramona Matthews, had just enlisted in the United States Army when she learned she was pregnant with her first child, Jacques.

Specialist Matthews was raised in a single parent home by his mother, Ramona, along with his two younger brothers, Chauncey and Malik. Specialist Matthews understood the pain of his mother as she struggled to provide for them and the reproach of his grandparents, William and Alicestean Carter and Susie Matthews. As his mother's oldest child, much was expected of him and he wanted to fulfill those expectations. But like many other young men, what appears to be quick and easy was tempting. And sometimes he was prey to those temptations. In fact he said and I quote, "my mother was more determined than me—for me to succeed. So, she snatched me from that wrong path and told me my life had three paths it could take and I had to choose one right then, college, military, or she was going

to commit a homicide and that's all I needed to know. Needless to say, I chose the military."

Mr. Speaker, Specialist Matthews has a litany of highlights during his military career including:

In 2008: Specialist Matthews enlisted in the Mississippi National Guard.

August 2008–October 2008: Specialist Matthews did his basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

October 2008: Specialist Matthews completed his basic training. He was recognized during graduation for having scored a perfect 300 on the physical fitness portion of the training.

July 10, 2010–July 31, 2010: Specialist Matthews was a member of the 2089th Vertical Company, 223rd Engineer Battalion. He received the Army Achievement Medal for his Superior and Unflinching Support of his unit.

November 6, 2010: Specialist Matthews was honored with the Commanders Award for scoring 297 on the Annual Army Physical Fitness Test while he was a member of the 223rd Engineer Battalion.

November 7, 2010: Specialist Matthews while in the 168th Engineer Brigade received the Silver Castle Challenge Certificate of Achievement for having completed the Army Physical Fitness test with a score of 297. He was recognized for distinguishing himself by his excellent conditioning. He is truly to be commended for the accomplishment and deserving of the recognition for his sacrifice and self-discipline.

May 2011: Specialist Matthews was in the 2089th Vertical Construction Company when he was honored with the Army Meritorious Achievement Medal for his selfless service, loyalty and honor, dedication and integrity as an example for all to follow for his significant contribution to the success of his unit and the Mississippi Army National Guard.

October 2011–November 2011: Specialist Matthews received the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of his superior physical ability during the annual training while assigned to Detachment 1 of the 2089th Vertical Construction Company.

May 7, 2012: Specialist Matthews' unit, the 2089th Vertical Construction Company, 223rd Engineer Battalion was activated to Afghanistan.

I want Specialist Matthews' story to serve as one of encouragement to those who think there is no hope for change and to those who prejudice someone because of their circumstances. Specialist Matthews has expressed great interest in building an exciting career in the military answering the call at home and abroad whenever and wherever he is needed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Specialist Jacques Alexander Marquis Matthews, from the Second Congressional District of Mississippi, now serving as a member of the Mississippi National Guard currently stationed in Afghanistan. As he so proudly represents the United States, I too am proud to represent him as a Member of Congress. I wish him a continued rewarding military career and a safe return home to the United States.

THE NEED FOR A SPECIAL ENVOY
TO ADVOCATE FOR RELIGIOUS
MINORITIES IN THE MIDDLE
EAST AND SOUTH CENTRAL ASIA

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with my colleague Rep. ANNA G. ESHOO in reintroducing legislation to create a special envoy position at the State Department to advocate on behalf of vulnerable religious minorities in the Middle East and South Central Asia.

In countries like Iraq and Egypt, ancient Christian communities are being driven from the lands they have inhabited for centuries. In Iran, Baha'is are imprisoned and some cases executed simply because of their faith. In Pakistan, Ahmadi graves are desecrated. In Afghanistan, a country where America has sacrificed greatly in both blood and treasure, the most basic right to freedom of religion or belief is not recognized in the constitution. This is but a snap shot of the grave challenges facing these communities.

If the international community fails to speak out, the prospects for religious pluralism and tolerance in the region are bleak.

Last Congress the House, to its credit, overwhelmingly passed, by a vote of 402–20, bipartisan legislation, H.R. 440, to create a special envoy position at the State Department charged with focusing on the plight of religious minorities in these regions. Sadly, in the face of State Department opposition, the Senate failed to act.

There is a historic precedent for special envoys—including the Sudan special envoy and the North Korea human rights special envoy—whose positions were created in response to an urgent need for focused attention on a critical issue. The dire challenges facing Coptic Christians, Baha'is, Chaldo-Assyrians, Ahmadis, the small remaining Jewish population and countless other religious minorities throughout the Middle East and South Central Asia is surely such an issue.

While there is no guarantee that a special envoy will be able to single-handedly solve the problem, it certainly cannot hurt to have a high-level person within the State Department bureaucracy who is exclusively focused on the protection and preservation of these ancient communities. Such an envoy would send an important message to both our own foreign policy establishment and to suffering communities in the Middle East and elsewhere that religious freedom is a priority—that America will be a voice for the voiceless.

President Reagan once said that the U.S. Constitution is “a covenant that we have made not only with ourselves, but with all of mankind.” I believe the United States has an obligation to speak out for the voiceless around the world and urge my colleagues to join me cosponsoring this critical legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF GERALD
WALSH, PRESIDENT OF THE
DUTCH KILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Gerald “Jerry” Walsh, outgoing President of the Dutch Kills Civic Association. Mr. Walsh has been involved with the organization since 1986, and has served with distinction as its President for ten years.

Mr. Walsh has lived in Astoria and Long Island City for his entire life. A proud graduate of Long Island City High School, he has always been passionate about serving and improving his community. In 1975, Jerry married his wife, Diane Hopkins, and is the proud father of two daughters, Dawn and Crystal, and has recently become a grandfather. Mr. Walsh has worked for the City of New York—Financial Information Services for 35 years in the Department of Computer Operations. He is currently the shift manager of Computer Operations Hardware.

His passion for the betterment of his community has been a lifetime commitment. He volunteered with the Dutch Kills Civic Association for the first time in 1986, and became a board member in 1989. He became its Vice President in 1993, and President in 2003. He has been the Deputy Chief of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) since January 2006, has served as the President of the Parents Association for Long Island City High School, and is a former member of the 114th Civilian Observation Patrol (Civ-OP). On November 29, 2012, the Central Astoria Local Development Coalition presented Mr. Walsh with the “Community Leadership Award” in recognition of his outstanding service.

The Dutch Kills Civic Association was created in 1979 to promote a greater awareness of the community among elected officials and government agencies. Dutch Kills is a neighborhood bounded by 34th Avenue on the north, on the south by Bridge Plaza North, on the east by Northern Boulevard, and on the west by 21st Street. The Association's goal is to assist all segments of the community and to support cooperation between business and residents.

Under Mr. Walsh's leadership, the Dutch Kills Civic Association has flourished. Mr. Walsh strongly believes in the power of community involvement and civic engagement. As the neighborhood has become increasingly residential, the number of retail establishments has grown and the area has become a mecca for tourists with many new hotels. The Dutch Kills Civic Association has made extraordinary contributions to improve the quality of life in the neighborhood. These efforts include supporting a massive rezoning project, making crime reports, improving sanitation, keeping a watchful eye on nightclubs, and successfully fighting the closure of Fire Engine Company #261. Additionally, Dutch Kills has sponsored children's shows at the Dutch Kills Playground and street fairs on 36th Avenue, and been involved with the organization of the New York City Marathon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary contributions that Mr. Walsh has made to the communities of Astoria and Long Island City. Mr. Walsh has truly brought about positive changes in the community he loves. His lifetime of service and dedication to civic life has greatly benefited his neighbors and the city of New York.

RECOGNIZING VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR ED VANVICKLE AND MAYOR ERIC SANDINE OF LITHOPOLIS, OHIO

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Village Administrator Ed VanVickle and Mayor Eric Sandine of Lithopolis, Ohio, for their heroic efforts to fix a water main break that left half of the village without water.

In most cities, a water main break would mean hiring someone else to fix it, but in Lithopolis, Mayor Sandine has made unconventional, but necessary, cuts to save money. Now he and Mr. VanVickle roll up their sleeves and do the dirty work themselves, even though it is not part of their job descriptions. With no more than household plumbing experience, these men were able to fix the water main break in freezing temperatures.

On top of fixing the water lines, these men, along with the village's maintenance crew, fix sewer lines and pot holes. They even go as far as operating snow plows and the water treatment plant.

These two men represent what it means to be a true leader. They do not do this extra work for money or recognition. Instead, they do what is best for their community because it is what they believe is the right thing to do.

I would again like commend Ed VanVickle and Eric Sandine for their heroic efforts and their incredible leadership in the Village of Lithopolis.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR. CARL
EVERETT DRAKE, SR.

HON. JOHN CAMPBELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 15, 2013

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Carl Everett Drake, Sr. who died peacefully of natural causes at his home in Sacramento on December 27, 2012. He was 99.

Carl Drake was born on August 21, 1913 in Neptune New Jersey, the second son of James and Lucy Bingham Drake. Carl was educated in the public schools where he was an outstanding student, and even better multisport athlete. His state high school long jump mark of 21'10" stood for over 25 years. His talents brought him to the attention of coaches from Morgan State College in Baltimore, MD the top ranked college football program available to African American players in the 1930s. His combination of size, speed and ferocity won him a starting spot on the championship football team. At 6'1" and 205 lbs., huge at the time, he was a bruising, standout guard, playing both offense and defense. The